

## Message Text

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21

ACTION CU-04

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R 030712Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO USIA WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4735

AMCONSUL KRAKOW

AMCONSUL POZNAN

UNCLAS WARSAW 2695

FOR IEE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL, PL

SUBJECT: CLASSIC FILM SERIES

1. GENERALLY GOOD RESULTS CONTINUE TO CHARACTERIZE THE "CLASSIC FILM SERIES" SPONSORED BY EMBASSY AND THE CONSULATES IN KRAKOW AND POZNAN. THE EXPERIENCE WITH TWO FILMS PROGRAMMED DURING THE PAST MONTH, "SOUNDER" AND "THE INFORMER", POINT UP BOTH THE APPEAL AND THE PROBLEMS OF THIS VALUABLE REPRESENTATIONAL MEDIUM.

2. "SOUNDER" HAD THREE NEAR CAPACITY AUDIENCES IN THE EMBASSY THEATER BEFORE INVITED GROUPS OF FILM EXPERTS, JOURNALISTS, STUDENTS, AND OTHER POST CONTACTS. IN POZNAN, THE FILM WAS AN INSTRUMENT FOR REPRESENTATIONAL EVENTS IN THE HOMES OF THE PRINCIPAL OFFICER AND THE BPAO A SHOWING IN THE KRAKOW CONSULATE'S THEATER ATTRACTED ABOUT 40 PERSONS. WHILE AN EXCELLENT FILM, THE SOUTHERN DIALECT OF "SOUNDER" CREATED CONSIDERABLE COMPREHENSION DIFFICULTIES FOR THE AUDIENCES. THE FULL IMPACT OF SUCH FILMS IS PARTLY DETERMINED BY HOW WELL THE LIMITED ENGLISH OF MANY POLISH CONTACTS CAN COPE WITH THE DIALOGUE.

3. " THE INFORMER", JOHN FORD'S FILM OF THE 1930'S, ELICITED A MORE APPRECIATIVE AUDIENCE REACTION AT SHOWINGS IN POZNAN, KRAKOW, AND WARSAW. BESIDES THREE SCREENINGS AT THE EMBASSY THEATER (TO SMALLER AUDIENCES THAN PREVIOUSLY OBSERVED)

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ED IN THE SERIES), THE FILM HAD THREE STANDING ROOM ONLY AUDI-

ENCES IN THE CONSULATE THEATER OF KRAKOW. THE CHAIRMAN OF THE KRAKOW ART ACADEMY'S FILM DIVISION COMMENTED, HOWEVER, THAT THE FILM WAS NOT TYPICAL OF FORD, WAS THEREFORE OF MARGINAL ACADEMIC INTEREST. A SHOWING OF "THE INFORMER" IN POZNAN TO AN AUDIENCE OF WRITERS, ARTISTS, AND ACADEMICS WAS VERY SUCCESSFUL, PROMPTING SPONTANEOUS APPLAUSE AT THE CONSLUSION. AMCONSUL POZNAN REPORTS THAT EVEN MORE THAN ITS PREDECESSORS IN THE CLASSIC SERIES THE FORD FILM ELICITED AFTER-SCREENING DISCUSSION AMONG THE INVITED GUESTS.

DAVIES

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NNN

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